

NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Submitting: ☐ Draft
☒ Final
☒ Mitigated Negative Declaration

Project Title: Hazardous Waste Management Facility Closure Plan Approval, Santa Susana Field Laboratory, Area IV

State Clearinghouse Number: 2005121012

Contact Person: Stephen Baxter Phone # (818) 551-2940

Project Location (*Include County*):

Santa Susana Field Laboratory, 5800 [top of] Woolsey Canyon Road, Simi Hills, Ventura County, California

Project Description:

Closure of two sites -- Building 29 and Building 133 -- collectively known as the Hazardous Waste Management Unit. Closure involves

- decontaminating existing structures including buildings, tanks, concrete pads and asphalt pavement.
- demolishing existing structures including buildings, tanks, concrete pads and asphalt pavement.
- testing underlying soil for possible contamination.
- excavating contaminated soils (if found) and backfilling with soil from an on-site borrow area.
- grading the area for possible future use.

The proposed Closure Plan is presented by The Boeing Company who intends to "clean close" the facility to the standards for unrestricted residential use.

Findings of Significant Effect on Environment:

Some sensitive plants species have been found in the facility of the Borrow Site. Some oak trees are in the vicinity of Building 29. Although these areas will not be directly impacted by the closure activities, it is possible for accidental damage.

Mitigation Measures:

- Due to the presence of potential nesting habitat for birds and sufficient leaf-litter to provide habitat for legless lizard habitat, at least one (1) pre-construction survey for nesting birds and legless lizard at the Building 29 site. If any partially built nests (determined by a qualified biologist) are found within 100 feet of the site, they should be removed to prevent breeding and take of migratory birds. Any special-status reptiles found during the pre-construction survey should be captured and relocated to suitable habitat areas outside of the project site. A qualified biologist may also suggest alternative or additional actions to be performed to mitigate biological impacts of the project.
- Orange construction fencing must be placed around the oak trees in the Building 29 area, located adjacent to the building and asphalt driveway (which requires removal). Where feasible, the construction fencing must be placed at least six feet outside the oak tree drip line for adequate protection of the root zone.
- In order to prevent the destruction of Braunton's milk-vetch plants and any potential seedbed in the immediate vicinity of these plants, the locations of these plants measuring approximately 50 feet long adjacent to (but outside of) the road must be avoided by all project-related activities and equipment at the Borrow Pit.
- Orange construction fencing, or at a minimum, yellow caution tape must be placed along the edge of the road to delineate the Braunton's milk-vetch locations and sensitive area at the Borrow Pit.

- All workers must be notified of the location of the Braunton's milk-vetch at the Borrow Pit and instructed to avoid these areas by staying within the existing roadway and avoiding the two plants near the east end of the Borrow Pit.
- If the project requires soil from the Soil Borrow Pit, an additional biological survey will be performed prior to using the Soil Borrow Pit that will update the information on the locations of sensitive plant species including Braunton's milk-vetch.
- While using the Soil Borrow Pit, dust control measures will be used to prevent dust from settling in the habitat for sensitive plant species which may interfere with growth and seeding. Dust suppression measures will be performed whenever dust is visible and/or dust is produced at a level high enough to impact worker health.

[original signed -- February 16, 2006]

DTSC Branch Chief Signature

Date

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